

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A printing system comprising:

a first computer for preparing printing information;

a gateway server connected to the first computer; computer, the gateway server having a memory storing means for storing printing information prepared by the first computer, the first computer and the gateway server being provided to a printed matter preparer; and

a second computer having an allocated IP address, the second computer being provided to a printed matter customer; and

a printing apparatus having an allocated IP address, which is provided to a the printed matter customer, the gateway server of the printed matter preparer being connected to the printing apparatus and the second computer of the printed matter customer via an internet,

wherein, when the first computer of the printed matter preparer designates the IP address allocated to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer and issues a command for outputting the printing information, the gateway server, ~~in place of the first computer,~~ issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, ~~which has the allocated IP address and~~

wherein, when the second computer of the printed matter customer designates the IP address allocated to the second computer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the gateway server, the gateway server issues a command for outputting the printing information stored in the memory storing means to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer via the internet.

2. (Currently Amended) A printing system comprising:

a first computer for preparing printing information, which is provided to a printed matter preparer;

a printing apparatus having an allocated IP address, which is provided to a printed matter

customer; and

a second computer having an allocated IP address, the second computer being provided to the printer matter customer; and

a gateway server having a memory storing means for storing printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer, the gateway server being provided to a transmission management center, to which the gateway server being connected to the first computer, the second computer and the printing apparatus are connected via an internet,

the printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer being stored in the memory storing means of the gateway server via the internet

wherein, when the first computer of the printed matter preparer designates the IP address allocated to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet, the gateway server, ~~in place of the first computer,~~ issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, ~~which has the allocated IP address and~~

wherein, when the second computer of the printed matter customer designates the IP address allocated to the second computer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the gateway server, the gateway server issues a command for outputting the printing information stored in the memory storing means to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer via the internet.

3. (Currently Amended) A printing system comprising:

a first computer for preparing printing information, which is provided to a printed matter preparer;

a printing apparatus having an allocated IP address, which is provided to a printed matter customer;

a second computer; and

a gateway server having a memory storing means for storing the printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer, the second computer and the

gateway server being provided to a transmission management center, ~~while~~ the second computer and the gateway server being connected to each ~~other~~, other; and

a third computer having an allocated IP address, the third computer being provided to the printed matter customer, the third computer being connected to the second computer via an internet, the first computer of the printed matter preparer being connected to the second computer of the transmission management center via an the internet, the gateway server of the transmission management center being connected to the printing apparatus and the third computer of the printed matter customer via the internet,

the printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer being stored in the memory storing means of the gateway server via the internet and the second computer of the transmission management center,

wherein, when the IP address allocated to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer is designated by the first computer of the printed matter preparer via the internet, and the printing information is transmitted to the second computer of the transmission management center, the second computer of the transmission management center issues a command for outputting the printing information, and the gateway server, after receiving the command for outputting the printing information, issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, ~~which has the allocated IP address and~~

wherein, when the third computer of the printed matter customer designates the IP address allocated to the third computer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the gateway server, the gateway server issues a command for outputting the printing information stored in the memory storing means to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer via the internet.

4-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A printing method comprising:

providing a first computer for preparing printing information ~~and a gateway server connected to the first computer~~ to a printed matter preparer;

providing a gateway server to the printed matter preparer, the gateway server having a memory storing means for storing printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer;

connecting the gateway server to the first computer of the printed matter preparer;

providing a printing apparatus having an allocated IP address to a printed matter customer; ~~and~~

providing a second computer having an allocated IP address to the printed matter customer; and

connecting the gateway server of the printed matter preparer to the printing apparatus and the second computer of the printed matter customer via an internet,

wherein, when the first computer of the printed matter preparer designates the IP address allocated to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer and issues a command for outputting the printing information, the gateway server, ~~in place of the first computer,~~ issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, ~~which has the allocated IP address and~~

wherein, when the second computer of the printed matter customer designates the IP address allocated to the second computer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the gateway server, the gateway server issues a command for outputting the printing information stored in the memory storing means to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer via the internet.

8. (Currently Amended) A printing method comprising:

providing a first computer for preparing printing information to a printed matter preparer;

providing a printing apparatus having an allocated IP address to a printed matter customer; and

providing a second computer having an allocated IP address to the printer matter customer;

providing a gateway server to a transmission management center, the gateway server having a memory storing means for storing printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer;

connecting the first computer, the second computer and the printing apparatus to a the gateway server ~~provided to a transmission management center~~ via an ~~internet~~, internet; and

storing the printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer in the memory storing means of the gateway server via the internet,

wherein, when the first computer of the printed matter preparer designates the IP address allocated to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet, the gateway server, ~~in place of the first computer~~, issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, ~~which has the allocated IP address and~~

wherein, when the second computer of the printed matter customer designates the IP address allocated to the second computer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the gateway server, the gateway server issues a command for outputting the printing information stored in the memory storing means to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer.

9. (Currently Amended) A printing method comprising:

providing a first computer for preparing printing information, to a printed matter preparer;
providing a printing apparatus having an allocated IP address to a printed matter customer;

providing a second computer and a gateway server ~~connected to the second computer~~ to a transmission management center, the second computer being connected to the gateway server,

the gateway server having a memory storing means for storing the printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer;

providing a third computer having an allocated IP address to the printed matter customer;
connecting the first computer of the printing matter preparer to the second computer of the transmission management center via an ~~internet~~, internet;

connecting the third computer of the printed matter customer to the second computer of the transmission management center via the internet;

connecting the gateway server of the transmission management center to the printing apparatus and the third computer of the printed matter customer via the ~~internet~~, internet; and

storing the printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer in the memory storing means of the gateway server via the internet and the second computer of the transmission management center,

wherein, when the IP address allocated to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer is designated by the first computer of the printed matter preparer via the internet, and the printing information is transmitted to the second computer of the transmission management center, the second computer of the transmission management center issues a command for outputting the printing information, and the gateway server, after receiving the command for outputting the printing information, issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, ~~which has the allocated IP address~~ and

wherein, when the third computer of the printed matter customer designates the IP address allocated to the third computer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the gateway server, the gateway server issues a command for outputting the printing information stored in the memory storing means to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer via the internet.

10-12. (Cancelled)